

FOR RELEASE #05-22
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GOVERNMENT TO CONSULT ON RURAL PUBLIC DRINKING WATER ACCESS

WHITEHORSE – As part of the Yukon government’s continuing commitment to providing safe drinking water, officials will visit rural Yukoners to discuss the Rural Drinking Water Supply Strategy that is being developed.

The consultation will include public meetings in every rural Yukon community. Yukoners will have a chance to speak directly to Community Services staff about what is working and what can be improved with public water access in rural areas.

“Access to safe, potable drinking water for rural Yukoners is a priority for this government,” Community Services Minister Glenn Hart said. “That’s why it is so important to hear from Yukoners and to get a clear understanding of what they see as the most pressing needs.”

A brochure detailing the nature of the consultations will be mailed to all affected households. It will also be available on the web at www.gov.yk.ca/depts/community. Meetings will also be held with First Nation water managers, municipalities and affected industry.

“This consultation is one more example of this government demonstrating leadership on drinking water issues,” Hart said. “If we can improve public access to quality drinking water, we can improve the quality of life for rural Yukoners, and that is something this government takes very seriously.”

A schedule of community meetings is attached.

The government has already taken several other steps to ensure safe drinking water, including implementation of the rural domestic well program and the Department of Health and Social Services’ free well testing for e-coli.

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Rural Public Drinking Water Access Community Consultation Schedule

- Community meetings are intended for rural Yukoners living outside of Municipal Boundaries. However everyone is welcome to attend.
- Watch for updated schedules in the Friday edition of Yukon News or Whitehorse Star

Date	Place	Location	Time
Tuesday, February 15	Deep Creek	Hootilinqa Fire Hall	7:00 p.m.
Wednesday February 16	Grizzly Valley Jackfish Bay Shallow Bay Mayo Road Hotsprings Road	Hootilinqa Fire Hall	7:00 p.m.
Monday February 21	Mendenhall (tentative)	Mendenhall Fire Hall	7:00 p.m.
Tuesday February 22	Golden Horn	Golden Horn School Library	7:00 p.m.
Wednesday February 23	Ibex Valley	Ibex Fire Hall	7:00 p.m.
Thursday February 24	Mount Lorne	Community Centre	7:00 p.m.
Monday February 28	Beaver Creek	Community Centre (tentative)	7:00 p.m.
Tuesday March 1	Burwash Landing & Destruction Bay	Burwash Landing Community Centre	7:00 p.m.
Wednesday March 2	Haines Junction &Surrounding Area	St. Elias Convention Centre – Dezadeash Room	7:00 p.m.
Monday March 7 (tentative)	Carcross	Community Centre	7:00 p.m.
Tuesday March 8 (tentative)	Tagish	Community Centre	7:00 p.m.
Wednesday March 9	Marsh Lake	Marsh Lake Fire Hall (after Local Advisory Council Meeting)	8:00(ish) p.m.
Thursday March 10	Carmacks & Surrounding Area	Recreation Centre	7:00 p.m.
Monday March 14	Teslin & Surrounding Area	Recreation Centre	7:00 p.m.
Wednesday March 16	Ross River	Ross River School	7:00 p.m.
Monday April 4	Dawson & Surrounding Area	Town Hall Chambers (tentative)	7:00 p.m.
Wednesday April 6	Pelly Crossing	Community Hall	7:00 p.m.
Thursday April 7	Mayo & Surrounding Area	Community Hall	7:00 p.m.
Tuesday April 12	Watson Lake & Surrounding Area	Recreation Centre	7:00 p.m.

Date	Place	Location	Time
Thursday April 14	Old Crow	Chief Zzeh Gittlit School (tentative)	7:00 p.m.